ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Partly hydrophobic metal oxides are prepared by silylating a metal oxide with

I) an organosilane of the formula

 $R^{1}_{n}SiX_{4-n}$

where n is 1, 2 or 3

or mixtures of these organosilanes,

R¹ each being an identical or different monovalent, optionally halogenated hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and being saturated, aromatic, monounsaturated, or polyunsaturation,

X being halogen, a nitrogen radical, OR², OCOR², O(CH₂)_xOR₂,

R² being hydrogen or a monovalent hydrocarbon radical having 1 to 12 carbon atoms,

x being 1, 2 or 3;

15 or

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II) an organosiloxane composed of units of the formula

 $(R_{3}^{1}SiO_{1/2})$, and/or $(R_{2}^{1}SiO_{2/2})$, and/or $(R_{3}^{1}SiO_{3/2})$,

the number of R¹ units in one organosiloxane being at least 2; I and II used individually or in any desired mixture in a total amount of from 0.015 mmol/g to 0.15 mmol/g per 100 m²/g of metal oxide BET surface area.